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Season's Greeting!!

It is a real joy for Josephine and I to be given an opportunity to say thanks to all Kiwanians for their generosity of time and talent in “Changing the World, One Child, One Community at a Time” this Christmas.

Kiwanians, we are well on our way with a few days to go before we complete our first quarter.

By now we should have paid our dues and or making arrangements for payment before December 31, 2017 in order to satisfy our District recognition program.

Over the last decade our District has suffered from significant deletions in the last quarter of the year for a variety of reasons but mostly because of lack of membership engagement and dues payment. At our training in Ottawa your LGs gave a commitment to reduce the number of deletions this Kiwanis year and to strengthen existing clubs. This requires a change in our approach to involving/engaging our members and inviting prospective members. On behalf of the class of 2017-18 LGs I ask all Club Presidents and Membership Chairs to commit yourselves to using the Formula in growing your Club and Division to strengthen your District. This will ultimately result in more service to our communities and most of all change the lives of a child.

“Change does not change tradition, it strengthens it! Change is a challenge and an opportunity, not a threat.” I earnestly ask Kiwanians to show your passion! Make every child happy, healthy, safe and loved this Christmas – they deserve it.

Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Your servant leader.

Bobby
Governor 2017-2018

“Service is Our Passion”
#KidsNeedKiwanis
Editor’s Notes

Christmas!! It is a special time of the year for most of us to get together with families and friends to express our love, share gifts, eat and make merry in commemoration of the birth of Jesus. Sharing and spreading love is quite an easy task for Kiwanians because that is what we do all year round.

As we celebrate this year, let us be mindful that it is also a time of sadness, loneliness and depression for some persons because of one thing or another; even with some of our own Kiwanian sisters and brothers. I therefore ask that you give an eye and an ear out for your “neighbour”. You may just save a life or lift someone’s spirit for the season in so doing. Also, give a shout out to your fellow Kiwanians who you have not seen or heard from in a while. They too need a little cheer from time to time.

As we celebrate and have fun, let us reflect on the reason for the season.

Have a safe holiday all and continue to share the Love.

In Kiwanis Service,

Merdina
As the Kiwanis Club of Providence-Montego Bay moves into the new administrative year, its high energy continues with service to the children and the less fortunate of the communities. Smiles for Healthy snacks is one great project embraced by all the infant and basic Schools that it is introduced to. The Young Children Priority One Committee visited the James Rodlyn Basic School where healthy snacks in the form of fresh, tasty fruits were introduced to the kids. Sweet and salty snacks are things of the past as encouraged by Kiwanian Yvette who along with several club members sought to educate over 30 kids who were served scrumptious fruit meal of banana, melon, orange and paw paw. As usual the kids were very delighted and enjoyed every ounce of their serving. They were encouraged to ask their parents to give them healthy snacks instead of the traditional sweet and salty ones.

“BE A CHANGE AGENT” are the buzz words that the Human and Spiritual Values Committee is bringing to the Students of the SLP Schools with whom they conducted devotion this year. Chairman Celloney introducing the acronym of CHANGE AGENT on a beautiful plaque strategically positioned at the Mt. Salem Primary and Junior High and the Barracks Road Primary Schools was a welcomed gesture by each school and is supported by the several Kiwanians that embraced this project on each visit. Children are encouraged to be better individuals personally and in their educational studies as well as to maintain a cordial relationship with each other.

On Saturday October 28, Kiwanis One Day, the Club, along with several members of the SLP Clubs it sponsored, made a vegetable garden at the Caribbean Christian School for the Deaf at Granville, St. James. This institution is home to over 35 hearing impaired children. This was the third year that the Kiwanis Club of Providence-Montego Bay conducted this activity at the institution.

The produce from the garden have been proving very beneficial to their meal planning over the years. Approximately 30 students with faculty advisers, Kiwanis advisers and members were bussed to the location where vegetable seedlings and seeds were planted. The group, was afterwards, refreshed with lunch and were then engaged in an enjoyable and entertaining concert.
2018 Signature Project Contest

Kiwanis International will again sponsor the Signature Project Recognition Program for Districts in 2018. In the contest's first year in 2017, more than 40 districts submitted their club-level signature projects for consideration as the best Kiwanis clubs have to offer. Three were chosen for the top prizes: gold, silver and bronze.

Signature projects show the impact a Kiwanis club can have on a community. From playgrounds and parks to festivals and fundraisers, signature projects are the hallmarks of what Kiwanis clubs are known for in their communities.

**EC&C District Selection Process**

The EC&C District urges each Kiwanis club to submit an entry to the ECC District Signature Project Contest.

- All entries will be judged, and 3 winners picked. These winners will have their Signature Project featured on the ECC Website.
- One winner will be chosen and be recognized as the ECC Signature Project of the Year.
- The District will also recognize one winner from each Division at the District Convention in Jamaica.
- The winning project will be sent to Kiwanis International as the District’s entry in their 2018 Signature Project Contest.

**Deadline**

Every club may submit one club-level project. Only one submission per club will be allowed, and all clubs are encouraged to participate. Entries may be submitted any time between January 1, 2018 and February 28, 2018. Winners will be announced in March 2018.

The ECC committee on Image will review qualifying submissions and select the finalists. The finalists will be recognized by featuring the project submitted on the ECC Website.

For further information go to [http://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/service-projects/signature-projects](http://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/service-projects/signature-projects) or contact a member of the committee. Committee members are: Christine Long (Chairman), Gary Levine, Gail Norris, Paul Chapman and Merdina Callum.
A Kitchener house given to House of Friendship by the Kiwanis Club of K-W was gifted to Reception House Waterloo Region and is now home to Syrian refugees Saleh Al Nasser and Awach Ahmad and their five children. They arrived in Canada after fleeing the fighting in Syria and going to Lebanon, which turned out to be neither safe nor comfortable. The family moved into the Kitchener home in April 2016. "It was a long journey for them," said Thaer Abu-Award, case manager with Reception House, who translated for the couple. "They were very happy and grateful," Abu-Award said.

The older home was originally bought by two local Kiwanis Club chapters in 1985 for the House of Friendship to run a program for troubled youth who needed a place to stay. "We didn't have the expertise to do the work with the kids, so the House of Friendship took over," said Shelley Des Cotes, secretary of the Kiwanis Club of K-W.

The program ran for 28 years, ending in 2014 because it wasn't financially sustainable. It then became home to One roof Youth Services and its pilot project to provide supportive housing for a year.

The Kiwanis Club of K-W had long provided the home rent free to the House of Friendship before donating it to the organization in 2011 and when approached about this opportunity to open the doors to refugees, the club did not hesitate to give the initiative its blessings and paid to renovate the upstairs bathroom to be more family-friendly.

After the family moved in, the House of Friendship donated the home to Reception House. Once again, the house is providing a safe home to people looking for a fresh start.

After arriving in Canada, Al Nasser and his family stayed in Toronto briefly before coming to Kitchener, where they lived in a hotel for a few months along with many other Syrian refugees awaiting permanent housing.

Then finally they had keys to their own home in a convenient location close to school for the children. Three of the children have ongoing developmental issues, but have made great progress with support.

Both parents are in school full time, too. Al Nasser said through Abu-Award that their new life is more than they dreamed of when first offered a home in Canada far away from the danger and worry they endured for years. "They were so happy just to leave," Abu-Award said.

Story from the Waterloo Region record (Edited)
Tree Planting For Climate Change

Climate change presents Jamaica with an unprecedented, vast and multi-dimensional challenge which practically borders on being an existential threat. In response to the need to increase awareness of the children on the impact of climate change, Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew undertook a tree planting project with its Service Leadership Programme (SLP) schools. Over 50 plants were sourced through partnership with the Forestry Department for planting in the schools. The trees will create shade spaces, increase reforestation and decrease the carbonization in the environment of the children to have increased fresh air when the trees have grown together.

The SLP members, Faculty Advisers and our Kiwanians dug the holes and planted the trees. President Kesha gave a talk to each group on the positive impact of the trees on our bodies and the environment. The students committed to continuing to water the plants and monitoring their growth. SLP schools involved were St. Marten de Porres Primary Builders Club, Mona Prep Builders Club, Suthermere Prep Builders Club and St Hughes Prep K-Kids.

Creating Hope from a Good Deed

The Kiwanis Club Eastern St Andrew ventured to Dallas, St Andrew to donate a wheel chair and diapers and hold devotions of thanksgiving with Ms. Marva and her family who was in need assistance. Ms. Marva has been home, disabled for over 35 years and not being able to move around had created difficulties for her. We shared the Kiwanis love with the family, and they were very appreciative.

One act kindness can go a long way in changing a family’s life. Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew and our Jamaica Theological Seminary (JTS) Satellite Club were happy to share lots of love with the family. Let’s continue to share love, as we change lives and communities.
2018 Kiwanis EC&C District Convention…. "Watch Out fi Dis"

In addition to witnessing the camaraderie of the over 2,800 member strong Kiwanis Movement in Jamaica, you will “Love the Vibe, Share the Spirit, and Live the Experience” in the city of Montego Bay at our 2018 EC&C District Convention on May 17-19, 2018.

The Montego Bay Convention Centre, our venue for District Convention 2018, is within minutes of the main Hotel for accommodation – The Holiday Inn Resort Hotel. This means that your free time before or after your respective training sessions or meetings may be used to relax, interact with fellow Kiwanians, stroll along white sandy beaches or take in the ocean views, among other things.

Registration will open in January, 2018 but rooms at the Convention Hotel can be booked now. All Club Presidents and Secretaries were recently sent an email from the EC&C District providing a Web Address for the Holiday Inn Resort Hotel so that members can start booking their accommodations now. The rate is US$211.00 per night for single/double occupancy so if you share with another Kiwanian in a double room, you each only pay US$106.

Check out the Convention Website at http://ecc2018.info and visit our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/KiwanisECCDConJamaica2018/ for more details...

Don’t miss it.....
On Friday, May 25, 2018, the Kiwanis Club of Ottawa West will once again host its Annual Lobsterfest at the Centurion Conference and Event Center, 170 Colonnade Road South, in Ottawa. This event has been a “sold out” for close to half a century, with progressively more people attending each year. Last year there were in excess of 500 people in attendance.

The Lobsterfest was originally a Fall fundraiser developed in the 1970s by the Kiwanis Club of Carlingwood. In 1991, upon the demise of the Carlingwood Club, responsibility for the event was transferred to the newly formed Carleton Kiwanis Club later renamed the Kiwanis Club of Ottawa West. When Kiwanis opened its membership to women, the Club was formed by wives who had no intention of carrying on the traditions of the “old boys” club. Even today the Club membership is 80% women but is extremely active in a variety of projects earning it a reputation of the “Little Club that Can”.

All proceeds generated from this fundraiser are used to support children and youth programmes in the community. Kiwanis Club of Ottawa West believes the community must provide all children with the opportunity for reaching their full potential.

Kiwanis Club of Fredericton sells over $15,000 worth of Bright Brand Quality Cheddar in support of Community Projects.

From left to right are Kiwanians Burt Green, Linda Dicaire and Anne Marie Hartford. Bright Brand Cheddar won 3 - first place ribbons at the November 2017 Cheese sale.
Governor Bobby’s Official Visit to the Bahamas
Division 22

Governor Bobby and Governor Elect Melford Clarke at Government House on Mount Fitzwilliam, posed next to the plaque which reflects the history of Government House.

First Lady Josephine greets Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, Governor General of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas during a courtesy call at the Government House while Governor Bobby looks on.

Governor Bobby and First Lady Josephine concluded their official visit in the Bahamas with worship at St. Agnes Anglican Church on Sunday, December 3, 2017. R-L) are District Trustee Edwin & Mrs. Melanie Thompson; Lieutenant Governor Garnell Kemp, Trustee Edwin and Mrs. Melanie Thompson attended the Kiwanis AkTION Club of Fort Montagu Installation Banquet.

Governor Bobby pinning Constable Kemp 549 of the Royal Bahamas Police Force with an official kiwanis EC&C District Pin making him an honorary member. Governor Bobby was so impressed with the Royal treatment received as the were escorted around the island.

Governor Bobby and Governor Elect Melford Clarke at Government House on Mount Fitzwilliam, posed next to the plaque which reflects the history of Government House.
In 2016, the Hospice of Peterborough made a presentation to the Kiwanis Club of Peterborough, highlighting the need for a new centre for end of life care. It was made known that a Capital Building Campaign, titled “Every Moment Matters”, would be undertaken to raise the required $8.5 million dollars to share the dream of having a new hospice center with an all-inclusive programming.

They asked that the Kiwanians imagine a place that provides a safe space that embraces a child, a mother, a son, or a neighbour in the final hours of life. A place families could turn to when their grief is unbearable. The death of children is an unbearable thought, and fatal disease and/or illness does not discriminate because of age. It was also revealed that this new Hospice Peterborough Care Centre would include a Pediatric Room.

The Kiwanis Club of Peterborough enquired as to how they could become involved in the “Every Moment Matters” campaign with a special focus on the Pediatric Room. After discussion with the campaign Directors it was decided that Kiwanis could provide the furnishings and equipment that was going to be required in this new Pediatric Room. This was going to be a major undertaking, so the Scott’s Plains Kiwanis Club of Peterborough was contacted and asked to consider becoming involved in a joint Kiwanis community project, to make the completion of the Pediatric Room a reality.

The two Kiwanis Club of Peterborough and Scotts Plains Club of Peterborough agreed to take on the project and made a financial pledge of $25,000.00 to furnish and equip the Pediatric Room. These two Kiwanis Clubs are pleased to say fundraising efforts from bingo’s, euchre tournaments and operating a snack bar at the local zoo, assisted the clubs to honour their pledge and they are anxiously awaiting the grand opening of this new all-inclusive hospice center in January of 2019.

In recognition of the Kiwanis contribution, the Hospice Peterborough Care Center will acknowledge the significant donation and support on the donors wall at the entrance of the building, and will be securing a plaque outside the Pediatric Room also acknowledging the Kiwanis Clubs.

Bob Anthony, president of the Kiwanis Club of Wodlawn, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia in Canada presents a cheque to Lisa Davis, Executive Director of Dartmouth Child Development Centre in recognition of National Child Day in November. The Kiwanis Club also gifted the Centre with preschool books for use by the children in the centre.
In October the Kiwanis Clubs in The Bahamas held their Installation of Officers Ball for the 2017-2018 Administrative Year, under the distinguished patronage of Lieutenant Governor Garnell and Mr. Audley Kemp Jr. The event was held at The Melia Nassau Beach Hotel, West Bay Street.

It was a night of glitz and glamour as Kiwanians, families and friends came out in great numbers to support the Kiwanis Clubs in Bahamas.

Lieutenant Governor Garnell gave her charge to seven (7) of the newly installed Presidents and guests, outlining her goals and theme for the new administrative year. Presidents installed were, Dwight Simmons - Kiwanis Club of Nassau; Shantell Spence - Kiwanis Club of Fort Montagu; Harold Thurston - Kiwanis Club of Cable Beach; Nathalie Russell - Kiwanis Club of South Eleuthera; Bradley Thompson - Kiwanis Club of Over-The-Hill; Dwayne Brown - Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M.; Merrilyn Johnson - Kiwanis Club of New Providence; Anithra Cartwright - Kiwanis Club of Fox Hill, East Nassau.

Also in attendance were Governor Elect Melford Clarke (at right in photo) and District Trustee Edwin Thompson (at left in photo) and Mrs. Thompson.

REMINDER
Do not forget to watch the spectacular Kiwanis Rose Float “Children’s Dreams The World’s Potential” at the 129th Rose Parade on NCB at 8:00am PST on January 1, 2018.